S. RES. 181

Honoring and recognizing the achievements of the United States Air Force Academy football program over the last 27 years

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 1, 2007

Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. Pryor, and Mr. Craig) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry, originally of Cheraw, South Carolina, coached football at the United States Air Force Academy for 27 years, 23 of which as head coach;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry is the winningest head coach of any United States service academy with a record of 169-109-1;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has amassed a 35-11 record against the United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy, and led the U.S. Air Force Academy to 14 of its 16 Commander-in-Chief Trophy titles;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry led his Air Force teams to 3 conference championships and 12 bowl games;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has been recognized numerous times for his coaching success, including selection as National Coach of the Year for 1985; selection 3 times as Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year; induction into the South Carolina Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Independence Bowl Hall of Fame; the 2001 State Farm Coach of Distinction honor; an honorary doctorate of humanities from Wofford College; service as president of the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA); and service as Chairman of the AFCA ethics committee;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has acted as a pillar of the Colorado Springs, Colorado, community during the past 27 years through his active involvement and volunteerism with local church, charity, and community organizations;

Whereas, in 2004 Fisher DeBerry founded the Fisher DeBerry Foundation, which is dedicated to the support and education of single mothers and their children, as well as other charitable causes;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has served as a positive influence and role model to numerous future Air Force officers, including coaching 3,375 players; having a graduation success rate of 91.6 percent among his players; and producing 19 All-American players, 124 All-Conference players, 11 Academic All-Americans, and 9 Postgraduate Scholarship winners;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry imparted to his players the core values of the United States Air Force: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do; and

Whereas, the United States Air Force Academy football program under the leadership of Fisher DeBerry has served as an example of these values for its community and the entire Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate honors and recognizes the numerous contributions made by the United States Air Force Academy football program over the last 27 years to Colorado Springs and the surrounding communities, the United States Air Force Academy, and the United States Air Force.